APPENDIX

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7 now read as follows.

1. (Amended) A Raman amplifier which is provided with an optical fiber for Raman amplification and a pump light introducing means, said optical fiber transmitting signal light and Raman-amplifying said signal light by pump light introduced thereinto, said pump light introducing means introducing, as said pump light, light having a wavelength that is within the amplification wavelength band of an Er-doped optical fiber amplifier into said optical fiber for Raman application, wherein the wavelength of said pump light is more than 1530 nm but not more than 1605 nm.

2. (Amended) A Raman amplifier which is provided with an optical fiber for Raman amplification and a pump light introducing means, said optical fiber transmitting signal light and Raman-amplifying said signal light by pump light introduced thereinto, said pump light introducing means introducing, as said pump light, light having a wavelength that is within the amplification wavelength band of an Er-doped optical fiber amplifier into said optical fiber for Raman amplification, wherein the wavelength of said pump light is 1535 nm or more but not more than 2605 nm.

4. (Amended) A Raman amplifier which is provided with an optical fiber for Raman amplification and a pump light introducing means, said optical fiber transmitting signal light and Raman-amplifying said signal light by pump light introduced thereinto, said pump light introducing means introducing, as said pump light, light having a wavelength that is within the amplification wavelength band of an Er-doped optical fiber amplifier into said optical fiber for

Raman amplification, wherein the absolute value of the chromatic dispersion in 1.65 μm wavelength of said optical fiber for Raman amplification is in the range of 0.1 to 10ps/nm/km.

6. (Amended) An optical transmission system provided with a Raman amplifier in a repeater section thereof, said Raman amplifier being equipped with (1) an optical fiber for Raman-amplification which transmits signal light and Raman-amplifies the signal light by means of pump light introduced thereinto, and (2) a means of introducing light, as said pump light, whose wavelength is within the amplification wavelength band of an Er-doped optical fiber amplifier into said optical fiber for Raman amplification, and said optical fiber for Raman amplification constituting a part or the whole of the optical transmission line of said repeater section, wherein the wavelength of said pump light is more than 1530 nm but not more than 1605 nm.

7. (Amended) An optical transmission system provided with a Raman amplifier in a repeater section thereof, said Raman amplifier being equipped with (1) an optical fiber for Raman-amplification which transmits signal light and Raman-amplifies the signal light by means of pump light introduced thereinto, and (2) a means of introducing light, as said pump light, whose wavelength is within the amplification wavelength band of an Er-doped optical fiber amplifier into said optical fiber for Raman amplification, and said optical fiber for Raman amplification constituting a part or the whole of the optical transmission line of said repeater section, wherein said optical transmission line is further provided with a dispersion compensating fiber, the chromatic dispersion of said optical fiber for Raman amplification having a sign opposite to that of the chromatic dispersion of said dispersion compensating optical

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fiber, the dispersion slope of said optical fiber for Raman amplification having a sign opposite to that of the dispersion slope of said dispersion compensating optical fiber.

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